



9/22/04

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 1269 (Garcia)

Military Family Relief Fund

Income tax check-off for taxpayers to contribute \$1 to a fund to benefit Michigan's veteran nursing homes and families of veterans called up for military service.

- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 1269 [RC 655: 34 yes, 0 no]. Immediate effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

HB 5527 (Shulman)

HB 5527 is part of the budget target agreements reached on 9/2/04. This bill will shift some 2003-04 items funded with General Funds to state restricted revenues to provide the needed General Funds to meet year-end short falls.

- HB 5527 passed [RC 658: 36 yes, 2 no (Cassis, Patterson)]. Passage of HB 5527 was reconsidered.
- Garcia 1 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- Johnson 2 (2 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- CLARKE 3 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- Hardiman 4 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5527 passed with IE [RC 659: 36 yes, 2 no (Cassis, Patterson)].

HB 5809 (Palsrok)

HB 5809 would provide immunity from civil liability to businesses involved in the manufacture, distribution, and marketing of food, for injury or death arising out of weight gain or obesity (except under circumstances involving adulteration, misbranding, or a willful violation of law). Specifically, the businesses would not be subject to civil liability for personal injury or death arising out of weight gain, obesity, or a health condition associated with weight gain or obesity. HB 5809 would prohibit a political subdivision of the State from filing, prosecuting, or joining a civil action allowed under the bill, on its own behalf or on behalf of its citizens or another class of persons.

- BERNERO 1 (5 amends) was defeated [RC 656: 16 yes, 22 no]. This would have required restaurants to public display nutritional information. Putting aside concerns for public health, Republicans Stamas and Allen argued this would impose a burden on businesses.
- HB 5809 passed with IE [RC 657: 34 yes, 4 no].

THIRD READING

SB 1243 (Brown)

SB 1243 would designate the portion of I-69 in Branch County as the "Purple Heart Trail".

- SB 1243 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

SB 1368 (PRUSI)

SB 1368 would provide for a one-time lapse of \$1.5 million from the available balance of the Judicial Technology Improvement Fund (JTIF) to the General Fund.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- SB 1368 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 1369 (SWITALSKI)

SB 1369 would provide a one-time lapse of \$4.0 million from the available balance of the Juror Compensation Reimbursement Fund to the General Fund.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- SB 1369 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 1376 (EMERSON)

SB 1376 would amend the Michigan Merit Award Scholarship Act to eliminate the \$1,000 Merit Award scholarships for students enrolled outside the State of Michigan for the high school graduating class of 2005. The bill would allow the State to save approximately \$4.5 million by eliminating the \$1,000 awards for students enrolled outside the State of Michigan.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- Garcia 1A was adopted. Clarifying language to make sure this only applies for this year.
- SB 1376 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 1391 (Brown)

SB 1391 would authorize the transfer of property in Lansing Township, Clinton County and DeWitt Township in Ingham County, from the Department of Management and Budget to the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs. The parcel is commonly referred to as the Baker-Olin North Complex and is located at 3423 N. Martin Luther King Blvd. in Lansing. The complex currently consists of three connected buildings, the Records Center, and the Federal Surplus Building, and provides space for staff and services of the Department of Community Health. The conditions of the buildings are reportedly very poor and contain a number of code violations and health and safety risks. According to Department plans, once the parcel was transferred to the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, it would spend \$13.0 million (almost all Federal) to completely renovate and/or

demolish the existing facilities in order to house administrative and support functions currently located at the South Washington Armory (Lansing) and the Purchasing and Fiscal Office Complex on St. Joseph Highway (Lansing). This action would consolidate several functions of the Department into new space adjacent to the new Readiness Center, and Combined Maintenance Shop Facility construction projects currently under way across the street from the North Complex.

- SB 1391 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

HB 4361 (REEVES)

HB 4362 (REEVES)

HBs 4361-62 would require insurance companies to cover nurse midwife services. In addition to or as an alternative to the services described above, the policy or certificate could offer to provide coverage for maternity services and gynecological services rendered during prenatal and postnatal care whether performed by a physician or nurse midwife acting within the scope of his or her license or specialty certification.

HB 4361 would apply to a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- HB 4361 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4362 would apply to a health maintenance organization contract and an expense-incurred hospital, medical, or surgical policy or certificate.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- HB 4362 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5432 (Koetje)

HB 5432 would provide for a temporary exemption from Occupational Code licensure or registration requirements for a person who was on active duty in the U.S. armed forces in an area designated by the U.S. President as a combat zone.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- HB 5432 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5864 (SAK)

HB 5864 would extend the sunset date on the amount of the fee charged for criminal record checks of fingerprints for employee-related or licensing-related purposes. Under the existing sunset provision, the \$30 fee currently established for such record checks will expire on October 1, 2004; as a result, the fee will revert to a previous level of \$15. The bill would extend the sunset date to October 1, 2007, providing for continuation of the \$30 fee. \$1.5 million is assumed from these fees at the \$30 rate. If action is not be taken to continue the collection of the fee at the \$30 level, and the fee reverts \$15, then the budget for the division will be underfunded by approximately \$750,000.

- Committee 1 (S-3) was adopted.
- HB 5864 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5953 (Sheen)

HB 5953 would allow a taxpayer to designate on his or her annual return a contribution of \$1 or more toward the "Military Family Relief Fund" (proposed by Senate Bill 1269 and House Bill 5954) and allocate 80% of the money designated on annual tax returns to the proposed Fund and 20% to the Post Fund and Posthumous Fund of the Michigan Soldiers' Home.

- Garcia 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- HB 5953 was moved to 3rd Reading.